

Serial No.: 09/997,999  
Confirmation No.: 3909

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Art Unit: 1714

**REMARKS**

This is a preliminary amendment in which the Applicants have added claims 128 and 129. No new matter has been added.

Claim 128 recites "a particle comprising a nucleic acid and a luminescent polymer." Claim 129 recites a method comprising "allowing a nucleic acid to bind to a luminescent polymer." Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification, for example, on page 28, lines 2-24.

A favorable first Office Action is respectfully requested.

If, for any reason, the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conversation with Applicant's representative would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 720-3500.

Please charge any fee or fee deficiency occasioned by this amendment to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Hancock et al., Applicant*

By: 

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Docket No. N00410.70000.US  
Date: 10/18/02  
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